namely Jamia Hamdard, New Delhi, Karunya University, Coimbatore and Allahabad Agriculture Institute, Allahabad, are recognized by the Central Government as minority educational institutions. The University Grants Commission has provided financial assistance of Rs. 591.91 lacs, Rs. 734.77 lacs and Rs. 601.83 lacs respectively to the Jamia Hamdard, during the years 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07.

Coverage of Mid-Day Meal Scheme in Andhra Pradesh

2798. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) how many schools in Andhra Pradesh are not covered under the Mid-Day Meal Scheme; and

(b) how many minority children are deprived of the scheme because they don't study in Government schools or in Government aided schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) Government of Andhra Pradesh has reported that mid-day meal is provided in Government, local bodies and Government-aided Primary schools, and AIE-EGS centres. The total number of Government, Government-aided, and local bodies schools in the State is 65,243. The total number of EGS and AIE Centres in the State is 4920. Thus, a total of 70, 163 schools and other centres are providing mid-day meal to a total of 54.30 lakh students. No schools that are under Government, local-bodies or, Government-aided managements are left out of the mid-day meal scheme in the State.

(b) The State Government has informed that no minority students in the State who are enrolled in Government, local-bodies and Government-aided schools are deprived of the mid-day meal scheme.

Deemed university status for institutions

2799. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that institutions applying for deemed university status will now have to be accredited;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government would henceforth inspect the infrastructure, faculty, etc., of the institutions, before granting such status?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) As per the information provided by the University Grants Commission (UGC), the Commission has issued a letter to all the applicant Trusts/Societies/Institutions to get the institution/courses accredited from the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) and National Board of Accreditation, as the case may be, depending upon the courses offered by them.

(c) The Central Government is empowered by the UGC Act, 1956 to declare an institution of higher education, other than a University, as Deemed to be a University, on the advice of the UGC. The UGC has laid down guidelines for consideration of proposals for declaring an institution as deemed to be a university. The proposals received for conferment of status under Section 3 of the UGC Act, 1956 are examined as per the provisions of these guidelines. The UGC evaluates the proposal by deputing an Expert Committee to the applicant institution that inspects and makes an on the spot assessment of the applicant institution and the facilities available there, including those of the infrastructure and faculty, and submits a report to the Commission. The UGC considers the report in its meeting before making its recommendations to the Central Government.

Foreign institutions in the education sector

†2800. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the foreign institutions are working in the education sector, in collaboration with Indian colleges and universities;

(b) if so, the names of these institutions and whether they have been legalized by the Ministry; and

(c) if not, the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OIF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) In the absence of any regulatory mechanism, no authentic information about the foreign institutions operating in the country is available. At present, only the All India Council for Technical Education has framed regulations for entry and operation of foreign universities/institutions imparting technical education in India. A legislative proposal for entry and operation of foreign educational institutions in the country is presently under consideration of the Government.

Survey for monitoring of SSA

†2801. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have got any survey conducted by Social and Research Institute and Indian Research Movement Bureau, for monitoring of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan being run for primary education;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the number of children aged between six to thirteen years, who are not going to school, is the highest in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh; and

(d) if so, the percentage thereof and the measures being taken to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (d) An independent

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.